

IN THE CLAIMS

The following is a complete listing of claims and replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of conducting, in relation to a print job, a printing process between an originating device and a printer, said method comprising the steps of:
 - ~~inputting security key information specific to the print job to the~~
~~originating device;~~
 - ~~embodying corresponding print job specific security key information in~~
~~a physical security key;~~
 - connecting a physical security key to the originating device;
 - initiating, in association with the ~~print job specific security key~~
~~information~~ physical security key connected to the originating device, the printing process at the originating device for outputting the print job from the printer;
 - suspending the printing process prior to outputting the print job from the printer;
 - ~~inputting, using the physical security key via a local user interface at the~~
~~printer, the corresponding print job specific security key information~~ connecting the physical
security key to the printer; and
 - ~~enabling, depending upon the corresponding print job specific security~~

~~key information~~ in association with the physical security key connected to the printer, the suspended printing process to output the print job from the printer.

2. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein ~~the print job specific security key information is input via a local user interface at a computer~~ physical security key is connected to the originating device or the printer by being inserted into the originating device or the printer.

3. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein ~~the corresponding print job specific security key information is one of (a) complementary to the print job specific security key information and (b) identical to the print job specific security key information~~ a private key corresponding to a public key is embodied physically as the physical security key.

4. (Currently Amended) A system for conducting a secure printing process, in relation to a print job, between an originating device and a printer, wherein the originating device and the printer communicate over a network, said system comprising:

a security key interface at the originating device, adapted to ~~input security key information specific to the print job~~ connect a physical security key to the originating device;

~~a physical security key, embodying corresponding print job specific security key information;~~

a user interface, adapted to initiate, in association with the ~~print job specific security key information~~ physical security key connected to the originating device, the printing process at the originating device for outputting the print job from the printer;

at least one processor module, adapted to suspend the printing process prior to outputting the print job from the printer; and

a local user interface at the printer, adapted to ~~enable input of the corresponding print job specific security key information~~ connect the physical security key to the printer,

wherein said at least one processor module is adapted to enable, depending upon the ~~corresponding print job specific security key information~~ in association with the physical security key connected to the printer, the suspended printing process to output the print job from the printer.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 4, wherein the ~~corresponding print job specific security key information is one of (a) complementary to the print job specific security key information and (b) identical to the print job specific security key information~~ a private key corresponding to a public key is embodied physically as the physical security key.

7. (Previously Presented) A computer program recorded on a computer-readable medium, the program comprising software code portions for performing the steps of claim 1.

8. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium storing a computer program, wherein said computer program comprises software code portions for performing the steps of claim 1.

9. (Currently Amended) A printing method comprising the steps of:

~~inputting~~ encrypting image data at an originating device to initiate a printing process for printing the image data on a printer by using public key information that corresponds to private key information;

~~initiating, depending upon the public key information input at the originating device, a printing process for printing image data on a printer;~~

suspending the printing process prior to printing the image data on the printer;

~~inputting~~ connecting a physical security key embodying the private key information at to the printer; and

decrypting the encrypted image data to enable ~~enabling, depending upon the private key information input at the printer,~~ the suspended printing process to print the image data on the printer, by using the private key information embodied by the physical security key connected to the printer.

10. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 9, further comprising the step of selecting, at a computer communicating with the originating device over a network, the image data to be printed, wherein the image data is stored at the originating device.

11. (Canceled).

12. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

~~a security key interface~~ an encryption processor, at an originating device, adapted to ~~input~~ encrypt image data to initiate a printing process for printing the image data on a printer, by using public key information that corresponds to private key information;

~~a user interface, adapted to initiate, depending upon the public key information input at the originating device, a printing process for printing image data on a printer;~~

at least one processor module, adapted to suspend the printing process prior to printing the image data on the printer; and

local user interface at the printer, adapted to ~~input~~ connect a physical security key embodying the private key information[[,]] to the printer; and

~~wherein said at least one processor module is~~ an decryption processor, at the printer, adapted to decrypt the encrypted image data to enable depending upon the private key information input at the printer, the suspended printing process to print the image data on the printer, by using the private key information embodied by the physical security key connected to

the printer.

13. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 12, further comprising:

a computer for communicating with the originating device over a network, and for selecting the image data to be printed, wherein the image data is stored at the originating device.

14. (Canceled).

15. (New) A method according to claim 1, wherein the physical security key is specific to the print job.

16. (New) A system according to claim 4, wherein the physical security key is specific to the print job.